

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Hiroshi Saitoh

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND  
MANUFACTURING METHOD  
THEREFOR

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**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
2011 South Clark Place  
Customer Window, Mail Stop Patent Application  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.